



Library Closed

Monday, February 19, in observance of the Presidents Day holiday.



BEAUMONT LIBRARY DISTRICT

a California Special District,
independent of both city and county
government, providing library services
to Beaumont and Cherry Valley



February 2024

State Library Awards Beaumont Library \$21,887 for Lunch at the Library Program

by Luren Dickinson, Director

On December 26, Beaumont Library was notified that it was being awarded \$21,887 for the 2024 “Lunch at the Library” summer program.

The purpose of “Lunch at the Library” is to provide free, healthy meals for both breakfast and lunch to children and teens when schools are not in session during June and July.

What began as a “pop-up” service with story times and activities at Stewart Park in cooperation with the City of Beaumont in 2019, became an on-site program at the Library in partnership with Beaumont Unified School District’s Nutrition Services in 2020.

(continued inside)

During the Covid years of 2020 and 2021, meals were distributed on a “grab-and-go” basis along with activity kits.

In 2022, a large canopy structure was set up in the library parking lot to provide shade during the program and in 2023 picnic tables were set up for families to gather and enjoy their meals.

Plans call for the 2024 funding to be used for the following:

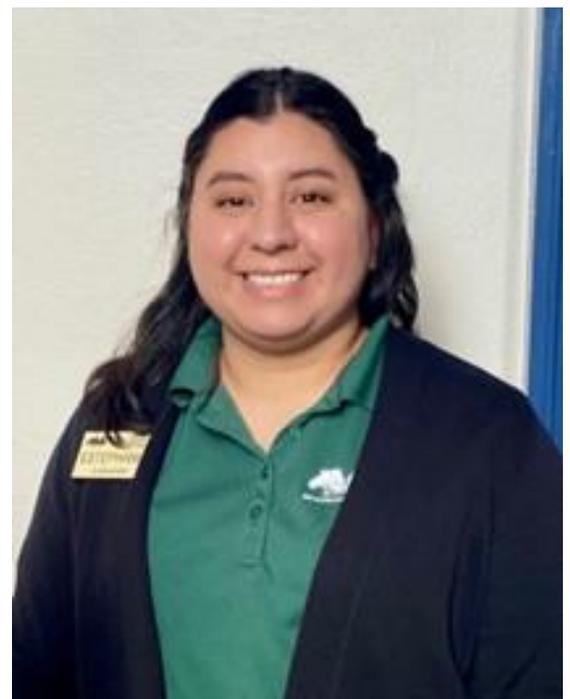
- Hiring of two teen interns 3 hours a day, 5 days a week, at \$17/hr.
- Rental of a shade structure during the summer
- Purchase of additional folding picnic tables for adults and children
- Purchase of trash bins and cleaning supplies and equipment
- Purchase of books to be distributed to children and teens
- Purchase of t-shirts for “Lunch at the Library” volunteers
- Scheduling of farm-to-table, art, and science programs
- Purchase of chairs, chair racks, and craft supplies

It is expected that this year’s “L@TL” schedule will begin June 10 and run through July 26 for a total of seven weeks.

Meet Librarian Estephania Ortiz Oedekerker

Beaumont Library’s newest full-time librarian is not really that new at all. Estephania Ortiz has worked part-time at the Beaumont Library since April of 2022.

Initially hired as an Associate Librarian to support our English as a Second Language (ESL) Literacy grant and provide reference desk services, Estephania was promoted to full time effective January 11, 2024.



Her role began as an instructor for the Beaumont Library Literacy and ESL program. As an English Conversation Class instructor Estephania provides extended English practice for beginning English learners.

In her new full-time role, she will be the Literacy Coordinator, taking on our growing program for adults struggling with reading and writing. You

can find Estephania conducting learner and tutor orientations, training volunteer Tutors for the one-on-one Adult tutoring program, and providing continuing support for learners and tutors.

Being a strong Spanish speaker, Estephania can support many of our ESL learners with very limited English, getting them into our program and matched with a tutor who can help them succeed. Her favorite part of working at the Beaumont Library is seeing the learners in our program improve their skills and change their lives!

Estephania's bilingual skills have also helped the library provide more assistance to Spanish-speaking patrons, including developing the Spanish language collection and instructing technology classes in Spanish on topics such as Google email, Excel, and eBooks.

She translates library forms and flyers into Spanish, allowing the Beaumont Library to reach more community members and become accessible to patrons who speak Spanish only.

She assists with the other events offered by our Adult Literacy and ESL Program. For example, Estephania has supported our Adult Learner Academy, a series of educational lectures on topics such as health, finances, and education conducted by local organizations.

Estephania earned her BA in English Literature from UC Irvine and will complete her Master of Library Science degree at Cal State University San Jose in May.

Born and raised in Southern California, she grew up in Desert Hot Springs. Estephania moved to Oak Glen two years ago where she lives with her husband, Jake Oedekerck. She is a fan of young adult books, romance, graphic novels, and comics.

Sign Up for Library Newsletter or Notices

To receive the newsletter automatically via email, please write to info@bld.lib.ca.us and you can also request notices on programs for children, or teens and adults, through the same address.

Beaumont Library District

125 East Eighth Street

Beaumont, CA 92223

951-845-1357

bld.lib.ca.us

Library Hours

Sunday—1 to 6 p.m.

Monday—10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday—10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wednesday—1 to 6 p.m.

Thursday—10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday—10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday—10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Bookmobile Stops

Monday—10 to 10:45 a.m., Chatigny Community Center

Tuesday—10 to 10:45 a.m., Noble Creek

Wednesday—1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The Blossom (644 Allegheny Street)

Wednesday—3 to 4 p.m., Liberty Village (735 Illinois Avenue)

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